

REMARKS

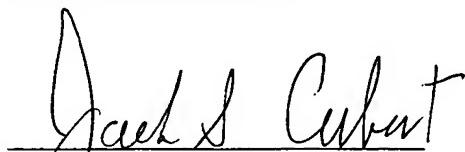
Claims 7, 8, 10, 12 and 14-20 having been withdrawn from consideration, Claims 1, 2-6, 9, 11 and 13 are now presented for examination. Claims 1, 2, 9, 11 and 13 and withdrawn Claims 7, 8, 10, 12 and 14-20 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 3-5 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. Claim 3 as currently amended is the only independent Claim.

Claims 3-5 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 3 has been amended to include all of the limitations of its base Claim 1. Accordingly, it is believed that Claim 3 as currently amended and Claims 4 and 5 dependent thereon are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' attorney, Michael J. Didas, may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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